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## Reuther Admits Using CIA Aid, Calls Braden Claim Misleading

BY HARRY BERNSTEIN ✓

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Times Labor Editor

Walter Reuther admitted Sunday he did "reluctantly" agree on one occasion to use \$50,000 from the Central Intelligence Agency.

But Reuther, president of the United Auto Workers, said reference to this fact by Thomas Braden, former California State Board of Education president, who once worked for the CIA, was "incomplete and misleading."

Nevertheless, the disclosure will inevitably hurt both Reuther and AFL-CIO president George Meany, since Reuther was said to be highly critical of CIA ties to U.S. unions and Meany has flatly denied he knows of such connections.

The Braden disclosures were made in The Times Sunday, and in an article in the current issue of the Saturday Evening Post.

In the magazine, Braden said that Jay Lovestone, Meany's foreign policy chief, and Lovestone's aide, George Brown, both helped set up the system of using U.S. unions to fight communism abroad with CIA money.

There was no immediate response from Meany, Lovestone or Brown.

In a recent press conference, Meany was asked about charges that the AFL-CIO was tied to the CIA—a charge first made public by Victor Reuther, brother of Walter Reuther, in The Times last summer.

Victor Reuther, who heads the UAW's foreign affairs department, was called "a liar" by Meany.

### 'Put This in Your Pipe'

Meany said: "Put this in your pipe. No matter who else may be involved . . . you will find out when you turn this thing upside down that Jay Lovestone had nothing to do with the CIA and never did have."

"That you can bet on."

Meany also voiced disapproval of the idea of secret funds from the CIA going to trade unions.

Braden proposed the use of unions and student groups while serving as assistant to Allen Dulles, then deputy director of the CIA and later its director.

Walter Reuther, in a statement issued from his Detroit office Sunday, disclosed that his brother was asked by Braden in 1952 to become a CIA agent, "using as a front his position as European representative of the old Congress of Industrial Organizations."

Braden said Lovestone and Brown used CIA funds to organize non-Communist unions in a system which started in France with Force Ouvriere, a French anti-Communist union that is still in existence.

This, Braden said, was the start of the CIA's use of U.S. unions to fight communism.

Braden said Victor Reuther should be "ashamed of himself" for his complaints that the AFL was using CIA money. Braden did not similarly criticize Walter Reuther as was indicated earlier.

Victor Reuther has been repeatedly critical of Lovestone and the AFL-CIO's alleged connections with the CIA.

Walter Reuther has been denouncing Meany and the AFL-CIO leadership for "complacency, indifference, and a lack of social vision," and has indicated the UAW might withdraw from the AFL-CIO.

### Touches Meany-Reuther Fight

This new uproar over CIA ties could have an impact on the entire Meany-Reuther controversy, since both now are accused of misstatements.